

RAILROAD TIME-TABLE.

ST. LOUIS TIME.

Arrivals and Departures of Trains at ST. LOUIS AND HANXIAL RAILROAD.

Train.	Arrive.	Depart.
St. Louis and Hannibal.	11:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
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OUTPUT OF ZINC AND LEAD

Zinc Has Reached the Boom Period of Three Years Ago.

St. Louis, Mo., March 30.—Zinc ore at \$7.50 per ton, the highest price since 1898, for the first time since that year until the past week, the price of zinc ore has reached a high price. Zinc ore at \$7.50 in December, 1901, it has been down to \$3.75 the latter part of November. The first week of November it was, however, \$4.00 per ton. It had then slowly risen to \$5.00 per ton. Not until the first week of the year and the highest price at which the ore was ever sold. It was during the week ending April 29, 1898, that this price was paid, and there was very little more ore sold that week than during the week just closed. In fact the average output of 1898 was only 4,000 tons each week, while the average for 1901, with prices \$4 per ton less, was 4,000. High prices, therefore, do not make zinc ore, and it seems impossible to affect the output by high prices.

During the past week it is estimated that there were 1,000 tons of zinc ore sold at \$7.50 per ton. There was shipped over 100 tons of zinc ore during the week. The balance of the purchase will be loaded early in the week. The Missouri and Kansas Zinc Mining Association labored earnestly all of last year to perfect an organization that would be prepared to export a part of the annual production of zinc ore, but the price at \$3.00 per ton, or even at \$3.00 per ton. They had no dream that natural conditions would exist, and the price of zinc ore at \$7.50 per ton. But the price has gone above the association's highest figure in \$2.50 per ton, and it was unnecessary to export any ore to accomplish the result.

To begin with the people of the United States used some \$9,000,000 more zinc last year than the year before. This was an increase of 20 per cent. Naturally the smelters enlarged their capacity and new smelters were built to capture a part of this large increase in this commodity. The smelting capacity was swelled to nearly 1,000,000 tons per week, and this district, as shown above, has exceeded 1,000,000 tons per week. There was perhaps 5,000 tons of zinc ore in the district last fall. Then came the winter, and the output was curtailed.

There were a few weeks of fair weather, during which an extra supply of ore was put in the bins, another and protracted cold spell, longer and harder than this winter, and the output was curtailed. The smelters, and before it passed away the winter, came and melted away with the snow. The smelters, though slowly and carefully, hoping that the opening of spring would bring an extra supply of ore. Gradually it dawned upon them that the output was not going to be as large as they had hoped for. All the smelters with ample reserve stock on hand. In fact, in some cases, the stock was so large that the smelters were not able to ship it. It was not until the week before last, and this was followed by an equally big advance last week, that the smelters began to export. Since abandoning the export plan, in view of the short ore supply, the Missouri and Kansas Zinc Mining Association has been about to study the metal market conditions, its consumption, and keep informed in every detail of the situation. The best result formed in the association do not expect ore to go any higher, and have doubts that a further advance will be made. It is not, however, but they do expect this ore to remain high during the summer. That the Illinois Zinc Company could step in and take the market and buy so much ore at so low a price as to drive the other smelters out of business, and that lower prices are not looked for soon.

Following are the sales in pounds, from the list of lead and zinc mining companies and individuals, named for the week ending March 26, 1902:

snow. The smelters bought slowly and gradually, thereby accumulating a stock which would stimulate the output sufficient to furnish a full supply of ore. Gradually it increased in a measure that would keep the smelters running at a normal rate on hand. Inch by inch, prices were advanced by a little more and a little more, until the smelters had a sufficient stock "to keep the smelters running." Then the market was flooded. It shut up week before last, and this was followed by an equally big advance last week. The market is now at a point which has an influence upon ore prices such as it was at the end of 1906, when the exportation of a part of the output of the Metal has not advanced correspondingly. The Metal is not advanced, and the metal brokers have the smelters in their control, and they are not going to let the Metal rise from the smelting works, and control equally the market price of the metal, regardless of the fact that the Metal is higher, but on the other hand, taking advantage of the fact that the Metal is higher, and the city of metal, as a recent visit to all the smelters in the district. None of the Metal is metal stock, and, and, and, without exception, are short on their view of the market.

Since abandoning the export plan, in re-